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Differences Between the IAS and the
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1. IAS (Engineer Aviation Service) in the SAF (Soviet Air Force) dates back to the 1920's while ATS (Aviation Technical Service) was established 1 Jan 43. Military ranks, which designate each of the above two services, range from Captain to Lt General. However, there is a definite distinction. Only the graduates of engineering academies and holders of engineering degrees are in the Engineers of Aviation Service (IAS), while the Aviation Technical Service (ATS) is composed of personnel who have been graduated and have diplomas from various lower technical schools. There is a difference in the way these officers are addressed also. For example, a Captain in the IAS is addressed: "Engineer Captain of Aviation Service" while a Captain in the ATS is addressed "Captain of Aviation Technical Service". Significance is attached to the fact that the word "Engineer" precedes the word "Captain" of the officer in the Engineers Aviation Service.
2. Enlisted men or Lieutenants who are holders of a diploma from some technical school or a degree from an engineering academy, are not allowed to use that distinction in their titles until they reach the rank of Captain. In short, the level of education is the distinguishing factor between IAS and ATS.
2. Prior to 1 Jan 43, military rank designations were different. Thus a Sr Lieutenant, with any technical background was called "Military Technician First Class"; a Lieutenant was called "Military Technician Second Class"; a Jr Lieutenant was called "Junior Military Technician"; a Captain, with a similar background was called "Engineer Third Class"; a Major was called "Engineer Second Class", and a Lt Colonel was called "Engineer First Class". The level of education was not apparent from rank designations at that time.

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